IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1 - 35 and add the following new claims.

Claims 1- 35 (Cancelled)

36. (New) A method of connecting a panel to a panel joining member, the method including the steps of:

forming a recess adjacent an edge of a panel;

locating said panel edge within a panel receiving portion of a panel joining member;

locating said panel against a stop member and aligning the recess with a fastener aperture formed in an inner wall of the panel receiving portion;

inserting a fastener trough the aperture into the corresponding recess in the panel, the fastener urging the panel towards the outer wall of the panel receiving portion.

37. (New) A method according to Claim 36, wherein a receiver is inserted into the recess prior to the panel being located within the panel joining member.

38. (New) A method according to Claim 37, wherein an adhesive is introduced between the panel and at least one wall of the joining member.

39. (New) A method according to Claim 36, wherein an adhesive bond weld is introduced when the fastener has been tightened substantially.

40. (New) A method according to Claim 36, wherein the fastener is an expanding rivet fastener to engage the panel tightly.

41. (New) A method according to Claim 36, wherein the fastener has a screw-thread to engage at least one of said panel and said panel joining member.

42. (New) A method according to Claim 37, wherein the receiver is an adapter, the adapter having a shape complementary to that of the recess.

43. (New) A method according to Claim 36, wherein the recess narrows away from its open end.

44. (New) A method according to Claim 37, wherein the fastener is introduced into the receiver at an angle inclined to the axis perpendicular to the surface of the panel.

45. (New) A method according to Claim 36, wherein the panel includes at least one projection to engage a corresponding recess in a panel joining member thereby forming a push-fit type joint.

46. (New) A method according to Claim 36, wherein opposing walls of the panel joining member are inclined together at an angle of up to 5°.

47. (New) A method according to Claim 46, wherein the incline angle is from 0.7to 2°.

48. (New) A panel joining member comprising a joining element having at least one panel receiving portion and at least one fastening assembly.

each fastening assembly comprising a fastener and a receiver, wherein each panel receiving portion is defined by spaced opposing walls including a panel stop member, located on at least one of the inner facing surfaces of said opposing walls, and in which a fastener aperture is located through one of said spaced opposing walls.

49. (New) A panel joining member according to Claim 48, wherein two panel receiving portions subtend an angle of less than 180° and the fastener aperture is located in the internal wall of the joining member.

50. (New) A panel joining member according to Claim 48, wherein the receiver of the fastener assembly is secured within a panel along a selected panel edge for inserting into a panel receiving portion.

51. (New) A panel joining member according to Claim 49, wherein the receiver of the fastener assembly is secured within a panel along a selected panel edge for inserting into a panel receiving portion.

52. (New) A panel joining member according to Claim 48, wherein the receiver comprises a body adapted for engagement with a panel, the body including an open mouthed recess for receiving a fastener.

53. (New) A panel joining member according to Claim 52, wherein the receiver narrows away from the open mouth.

54. (New) A panel joining member according to Claim 48, wherein the spaced opposing walls are inclined together at an angle of up to 5°.

55. (New) A panel joining member according to Claim 54, wherein the incline angle is from 0.7° to 2°.

56. (New) A panel joining member according to Claim 48, wherein the panel joining member includes a chamfered edge.

57. (New) A panel joining member according to Claim 48, wherein the fastener is a screw having a flat ended shank.

58. (New) An adapter to receive a fastener and for insertion into a panel recess, the adapter comprising an opening to receiver a fastener, the mouth of the opening having a diameter greater than that of said fastener.

59. (New) An adapter according to Claim 58, wherein the opening includes a narrowing at its closed end to grip the end of a fastener.

60. (New) An adapter according to Claim 59, wherein the opening and the narrowing are cylindrical.

61. (New) An adapter according to Claim 60, wherein the cylinders are co-axial.

62. (New) A panel joint, the panel joint comprising:

a panel an edge of which is locally flat and which flat region includes a recess;

a joining member, the joining member having spaced opposed walls to receive a panel;

a joining member, the joining member having spaced opposed walls to receive a panel;

at least one stop member against which a panel is aligned;

and wherein the joining member has an aperture in one of said walls to enable a fastening member to pass through the joining member and engage the panel, thereby urging the panel against the opposite wall of the joining member.

63. (New) A joint according to Claim 62, wherein the joint includes adhesive between the panel and at least one wall of the joining member to increase te strength of the joint.

64. (New) A joint according to Claim 62, wherein an adapter is located in the recess, the adapter having a shape complementary to that of the recess.

65. (New) A joint according to Claim 63, wherein an adapter is located in the recess, the adapter having a shape complementary to that of the recess.

66. (New) A joint according to Claim 64, wherein the adapter narrows away from its open end to ensure that the material from which the adapter is formed undergoes plastic flow around the fastening member as the fastening member is fully engage.

67. (New) A joint according to Claim 62, wherein the fastening member includes a screw thread to engage the joining member.

68. (New) A joint according to Claim 62, wherein the recess includes an aperture to receive a nut into which the fastening member can be screwed, the member and the nut co-operatively engaging to lock the nut against the inner wall.

69. (New) A joint according to Claim 62, wherein the fastening member is aligned along an axis which is at an angle inclined to the axis perpendicular to the surface of the panel.